



2013 Deer Trustee Report

Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

1 of 2

Action Team: Herd Health/CWD	Parking Lot – #5
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted	Deer Trustee Report Page #N/A

I. ORIGINAL PARKING LOT ITEM

Wisconsin needs to continue to support CWD research that will improve WI CWD management.

II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE PARKING LOT ITEM

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- The State of Wisconsin and the federal government need to continue to identify, facilitate, and financially support CWD research that is carefully selected to provide information for state CWD and deer management decisions. Research conducted on public or private landholdings must be approved by the appropriate landowner/property manager. Current high priority research areas include the role of environmental contamination in CWD spread, enhancing surveillance approaches to detect spread and prevalence trends, the efficacy of control strategies, and whether CWD will pose a risk for livestock and human health. WDNR, WI Universities and other proven CWD research partners must collaborate to achieve this in a timely and cost effective way. WDNR routine surveillance data must be readily available (through a WDNR website), both to further some of the research goals, but also for citizen and stakeholder use in making choices about hunting and other activities.

2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

There continue to be many areas of our understanding of CWD that need further research to inform good disease management in our state. High priority examples include:

- Understanding detection and trend monitoring capacities of various surveillance strategies.
- Understanding the role that environmental deposition of CWD prion play in spread of infection.
- Exploring how various control strategies impact further spread of CWD (potentially including, but not limited to, different hunter harvest season structures, incentives to hunters, agency culling, and vaccination).
- Understanding how CWD prions adapt to new hosts in natural systems and what this means for potential risks to livestock and human health.
- Any changes to regulatory structure, proposed pursuant to research findings, must be appropriately reviewed (including public input) and approved by the Natural Resources Board prior to implementation.

Historically, WI made a strong commitment to supporting CWD research, but recently WDNR has invested less, been less active in fostering research important to WI CWD management, and been less open to facilitating research (e.g. through making surveillance data accessible, by leveraging unique resources like the Hall farm premise, etc.). This trend needs to be turned around.



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3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- Nationally, there is less funding available for CWD research and there is less interest by agencies in stimulating/facilitating research. So, WDNR (with partners) really needs to be active in making important research happen.

4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- Good targeted research on CWD should ultimately help simplify and improve deer management decision-making.